



Craig Donnelly's

ANALY\$IS

@parxracing



Craig has been involved in horseracing for 50 years as a handicapper, journalist, linemaker and analyst. He began his career in 1969 handicapping the races for the Miami Beach Sun. Beginning in 1971 he began picking winners for the Philadelphia Inquirer, where he remained for 37 years. Craig has also been a linemaker for the Atlantic City Racecourse and The Meadowlands, where he was the program oddsmaker and television co-host for seven seasons.

Sponsored and Distributed by the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horseman's Association

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: CHACHACHING (2nd) – ASSEMBLY POINT (6th)

Race 1

- 6** WAITWAITDONTTELLME – Nearly caught heavy favorite in sprint after Soto-Martinez re-claimed.
- 3** HI HEELED WARRIOR – Hard to rate when facing “open” company; four 2025 wins with Castillo.
- 7** K D KAKES – Narrowed gap sprinting when taking plunge and rare attempt around two turns.
- 2** FROSTED DIAMOND – Fair try at Monmouth after sluggish break; might prefer shorter yardage.

Race 2

- 4** CHACHACHING – Cruised past rivals after arriving from Kentucky; shorter time between starts.
- 5** WICKED MELODY – Remote third in possibly better field after romping at Monmouth; key threat.
- 1** OKIE DEN DEN – Frequently close but case of seconditis; stretching out with inside speed.
- 6** BOYS OF SUMMER – Distant third as favorite at Penn after crushing lesser locally in mud.

Race 3

- 1** BAILOUT BILLY – Rapid filly hampered by slow start in July; capable of shaking loose from rail.
- 3** WEEKEND HONOR – Rallied behind longshot winner when competing better than odds suggest.
- 6** INSTANT VISION – Throw out last and frequently close during 11 losses; best necessary.
- 4** SWEET DISTRACTION – Good effort behind talented duo last week and makes 24th attempt.

Race 4

- 5** POPOVER GAL – Stopped abruptly when claimed for twice this amount but ability advantage.
- 3** GOLDIENESS – Exits solid effort in Jersey after wiring local rivals; facing early pressure.
- 2** CREATIVE COPY – Ran into tigress when re-claimed for this tag by Dandy barn; must respect.
- 6** ROLLS ROYCE JOYCE – Proven she fits against this kind and romped twice earlier for Arce.

Race 5

- 2** TIGGY THUNDER – Anticipated better when claimed but debut encouraging and could upset.
- 5** SHE'S JUSTIFIED – Speedy filly used up dueling on road trip but may prove difficult to catch.
- 6** CRUISE MISSILE – Humbled by runaway winner in mud after arriving from Kentucky; 15th try.
- 1** ALYVIA MAVIS – Third start for Ness stable and hit board in 11 of 21 races; threat on best.

Race 6

- 2** ASSEMBLY POINT – Overcame bad start in terrific effort when claimed; can handle raise.
- 4** HEY PORTER – Determined stretch-runner disqualified from victory when claimed by Plno.
- 1** WALDRIP – Plunges for leading barn but yet to regain last year's form; can't dismiss this level.
- 3** CLASSIC UNION – Fair showing at Penn but outrun locally this season; back with routers.

Race 7

4	BUCKS SOME – Ten-year-old mare seeks third straight nearing half million in earnings.
7	FIVE STAR FRAN – Decisive score against three-time winners and just missed prior outing.
2	SONADORA GIRL – Wide middle move before tiring late for higher tag; won twice with Lopez.
5	COULD BE A COUGAR – Poor showing in mud but faced classier company in past as threat.

Race 8

6	GUAPONESS – Nearly overcame eventful trip this spot after Carlos Guerrero claim; usually fires.
2	FINAL SHOT – Veteran weakened in final furlong behind top choice; on rare losing streak.
5	UNCAPTURED STAR – Rapid gelding with sufficient ability but likely needs to shake loose.
3	HARP'S HOT CORNER – Back sprinting on main track and formidable here earlier in season.

Race 9

7	SILENT MODE – Improving gelding prominent throughout as longshot; might continue progress.
3	PRINCE COLTON – Probable pacesetter led to final stages when just ahead of top selection.
8	TRAFFIC MASTER – Significant drop after difficult wide trip; edged second pick in April.
4	ELOQUIST – Ness runner on rare losing streak but takes major drop; dangerous this level.